

# Peace Lutheran Church



# West Seattle, Washington

Two stories intertwine today and reshape history: A divine emissary comes to young Mary with news that will turn her world upside down; and after taking in this news, Mary goes to her relative Elizabeth seeking affirmation for what the messenger told her. After these encounters, neither the lives of these women nor the life of the world will ever be the same again.



There are times during the service when you'll be invited to "rise in body or spirit."

You have full permission to care for yourself and your physical well-being, so if getting up and down is difficult, we encourage you to do whatever you need to do to care for yourself, including remaining seated.

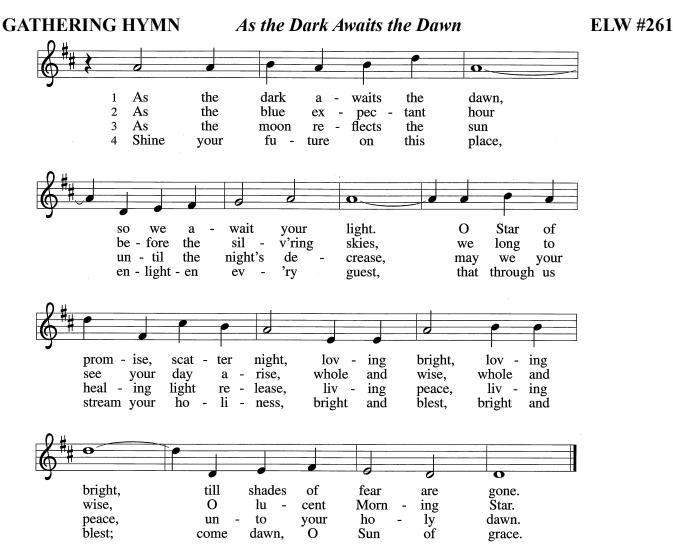
Parents, know that if your young ones need to move around, we're cool with that!

# + GATHERING +

P – Presider C – Congregation L - Lector A – Assisting Minister ELW – Evangelical Lutheran Worship ACS – All Creation Sings

#### **PRELUDE**

#### WELCOME



#### **GREETING**

- P The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

### **KYRIE**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

# ADVENT SONG O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, verses 7 & 8

O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one: refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.* 

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.* 

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Kevin & Esme Klinemeier

The candles on the Advent wreath are lit progressively as we prepare to welcome Christ.

L The Gospel of Luke tells how Mary meets her cousin Elizabeth: When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

God speaks in many ways: through dreams, visions, new ideas, and the kicking of a child not yet born. We light our fourth candle, asking that we may hear God's call in our body, mind, and spirit.

The fourth candle is lit.

- Let us pray. Living Christ, give us faith to trust you, hope to follow you, love to live for you, and wisdom to know you.
- C We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.

# + WORD +

#### FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

Shannon Williams

Many years before the time of Micah, God promised David that his dynasty would last forever. Although prophets such as Micah warned that judgment would come from unfaithfulness, Micah foresees a restoration beyond that judgment.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,

who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me

one who is to rule in Israel,

whose origin is from of old,

from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time

when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return

to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,

in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great

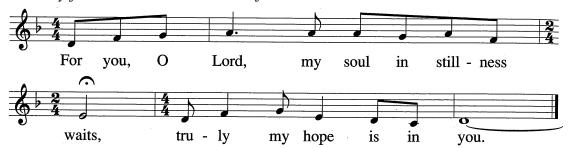
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

- L Holy wisdom. Holy Word.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### **PSALM: Psalm 95**

The assembly joins the cantor on each refrain:



Cantor:

Come, let us bow before the God who made us,

Barbara Jones

Let ev'ry heart be opened to the Lord,

For we are all the people of his hand. Refrain

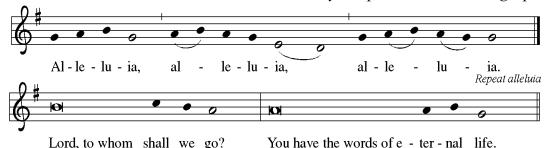
Here we shall meet the Maker of the heavens,

Creator of the mountains and the seas,

Lord of the stars, and present to us now. Refrain

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Please rise in body or spirit to receive the gospel.* 

**ELW #168** 



- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 1st chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

#### GOSPEL PART ONE: Luke 1:26-38 The Annunciation

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people (Mary) from little-known places (Nazareth). This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her

who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

#### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

Shannon Williams

#### GOSPEL PART TWO: Luke 1:39-55 The Visitation

After the annunciation by Gabriel, Mary goes quickly to see Elizabeth. Their encounter confirms what Gabriel said, inspiring Mary to raise her voice in a song of praise and thanksgiving.

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

- <sup>46</sup>And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord,
- <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
- <sup>48</sup> for God has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- <sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- <sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
- <sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- <sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
- <sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- <sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'
- <sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.
- L The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Erik Kindem

Time for reflection

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

## My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

ELW #251



### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** From the Iona Community

- P With the whole church,
- C We affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.
- P With people everywhere,
- C We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.
- P With all creation,
- C We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Janet Cruse

A swe prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

Petitions are offered that end with:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

When all petitions have been offered:

- P Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

# + MEAL +

#### THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you. We share a gesture of peace with our neighbors.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **OFFERING**

Your financial gifts today support the ongoing ministry of our congregation, cooperative ventures of ELCA congregations throughout Western Washington, and Evangelical Lutheran ministries around the world. We invite you to give generously! You can place your gift in the offering plate, mail in a check, or connect to our secure Tithely Giving Page via this QR CODE. Whatever size, your gift makes difference—thank you for your support!



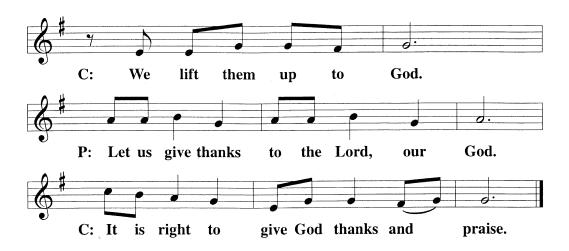


#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A Let us pray. Creator God,
- C you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



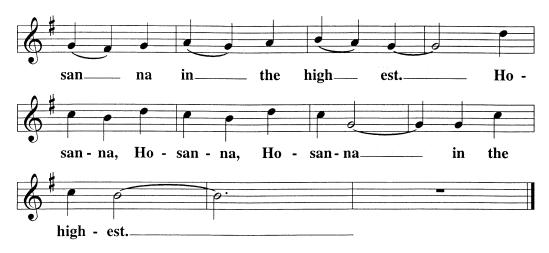


P Truly it is right and joyous to offer thanks and praise to our gracious God in all places and in all circumstances of life, but especially so on this day as we anticipate the coming of our Savior, the light which can never be extinguished. And so with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with all the saints and angels in heaven and on earth, we raise our voices with this never-ending hymn of praise!

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW Page 190





#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

- P Gracious God of life and light our hearts are full of gratitude...
  ...in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread... took the cup...
  poured out for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- C We remember, O God, and with this bread and cup we feast at your table in joyful anticipation of that day when all creation will find its home in you.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (traditional)

- P Trusting in the One who made his home with us, we pray the prayer of Jesus:
- Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
   Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
   For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.
- C Thanks be to God!

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

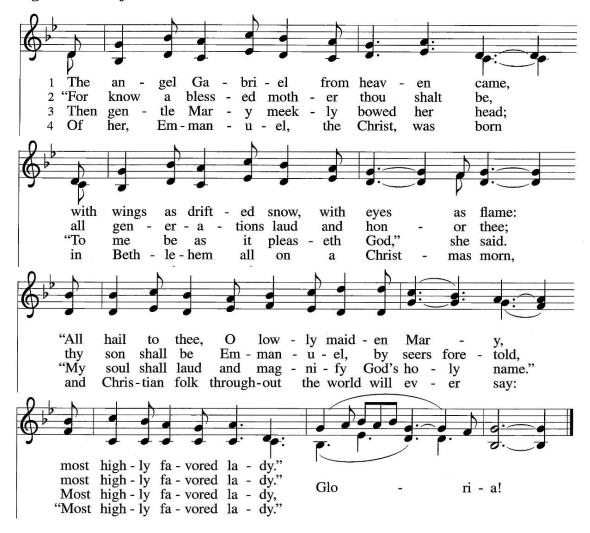
We commune processionally. Extend your hands to receive bread. A gluten free wafer is also available. Both wine (dark) and grape juice (light) are available in ceramic cups. Place your empty cup in the box at the end of the front pew on your way back. Children are welcome to receive when their parents believe they are ready, with the support of the pastor. Any who prefer a blessing may cross their hands over their chest as they come forward.



#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

## The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

**ELW #265** 



#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

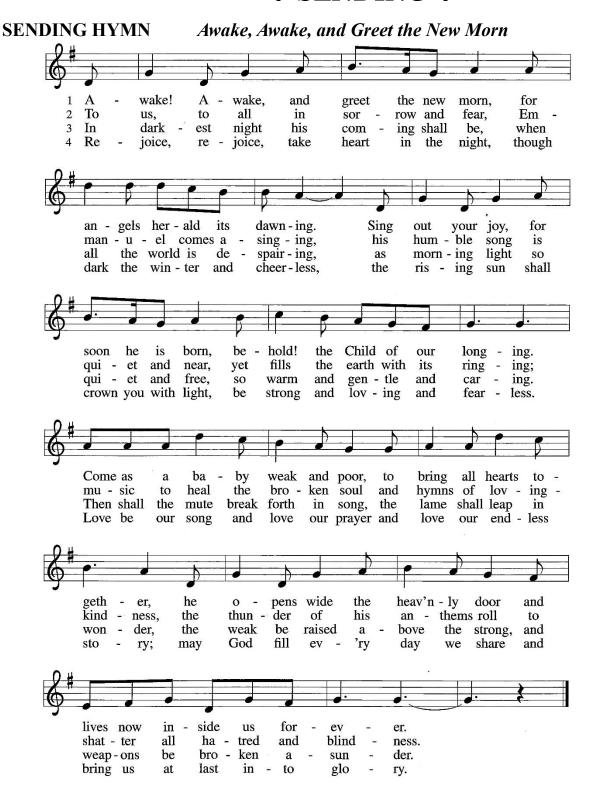
- A Let us pray. Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.
- C Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

- P God of endings and beginnings, God of darkness and light, God our hope for the journey, + bless and keep you now and forever.
- C Amen.

# + SENDING +

**ELW #242** 



#### **DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C Thanks be to God!

#### **POSTLUDE**



# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

8316 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Seattle, WA 98136

Pastor Erik Kindem's mobile phone number

206-935-1962
206-930-3172

Pastor Erik Kindem's e-mail pastor@peacelutheranseattle.org
Peace Lutheran web page: www.peacelutheranseattle.org
Kathleen Keyes Office Admin. office@peacelutheranseattle.org

Church Office hours: Tuesday through Thursday 10:00am-3:00pm

Nicole Klinemeier, Youth Director 206-427-6496

Jon Lackey, Minister of Music Music@peacelutheranseattle.org

Find us on facebook at People of Peace Lutheran

# **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Pastor Rev. Erik Kindem Minister of Music Jon Lackey Liturgical Assistant Janet Cruse

Liturgical Assistant Janet Cruse Acolyte Wyatt Gray

Advent Readers Kevin & Esme Klinemeier

LectorShannon WilliamsCantorBarbara JonesChildren's MessageShannon Williams

Greeters Corinne Otakie, Marcia Olson

Ushers John & Debi Flint Altar Care Chris Kindem

Communion Assistants

Coffee Server

Shannon Williams, Barbara Hillier

Counters

Alan Jarvimaki, Kathleen Keyes

Production Techs

Alex Wren, Alan Jarvimaki

Nursery Attendant Heidi Coy

## **OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

Thank you for your gifts which support God's mission at Peace, in the Northwest region, and internationally through the ELCA!

#### Offering Income received in December 2024

 12/01/24
 \$ 2,483.00

 12/08/24
 \$ 3,210.00

 12/15/24
 \$ 1,250.00

 Electronic
 \$ 8,339.80

 Total
 \$15,282.80

Your year-end gift will help us close the fiscal year with strength.

## THIS WEEK'S ACT FOR CREATION

Wondering if the gift wrapping you're using (or receiving) this year is recyclable? Use this super simple "scrunch test." If the paper has no glitter on it and scrunches up, you can recycle it. If not, it's garbage. **Pray for Creation:** As we rejoice in God's promise to bring a new creation in the birth of Jesus, we pray

that our lives reflect God's desire for shalom among all our kin in the universe.

# CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES AT 5 PM AND 9 PM

<u>Christmas Eve Family Service @ 5:00pm</u> with costumes for kids! Come be part of the drama. Christmas Eve Holy Communion Service @ 9:00pm, lessons and carols, message, Eucharist.

# OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2025 AVAILABLE

Offering envelopes for 2025 are available for pick-up for those of you who do <u>not</u> donate electronically. They are on a counter in the narthex closest to the kitchen.

# CHRISTMAS CONCERTS WITH PEACE LUTHERAN CHOIR & FAUNTLEROY UCC 12/22 4 PM

Some great news to share! Our choir is – after several years of not being able to so due to COVID – once again joining Fauntleroy UCC and a couple of other choirs for a joint Christmas Concert series. There will be an excellent string trio accompanying us for three of the pieces. Some of the music includes: "For Unto Us a Child is Born" from MESSIAH, "The Rose" by Ola Gjeio, and the finale — a larger work, "Luminous Night of the Soul" also by Ola Gjeilo.

This will be Bronwyn Edwards' final Christmas concert series as she is retiring from her music ministry at Fauntleroy in June. We sure hope to see you there! The free concert is: Sunday, December 22 at 4 pm at Fauntleroy UCC, 9140 California Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98136

# CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS DIRECTED BY DAVID BOECKH IN MAGNOLIA 12/22 4 PM

For those who already attended Saturday's combined choral concert at Fauntleroy and are looking for something tonight: Lessons and Carols at Church of the Ascension in Magnolia! With music director and Peace member David Boeckh! 4pm Sunday—with festive reception to follow. 2330 Viewmont Way W, Seattle, WA 98199. <a href="https://ascensionseattle.org">https://ascensionseattle.org</a>. It is a service of hymns, anthems, and readings in anticipation of Christmas. Modeled after the beloved service of Nine Lessons and Carols broadcast annually from King's College, Cambridge. This is free, and all are welcome.

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 26, 2022

Sunday, January 26, is our Annual Congregational Meeting. Please add it to your calendar! We will have options for people to join the meeting in person and through two online platforms. Following are some key dates to keep in mind as the day approaches.

- **JANUARY 5** All annual reports from Peace ministries, committees, and task forces are due in the church office (electronic form, please!)
- **JANUARY 14** Church Council meets to finalize Annual Mtg agenda, Pass Hat proposals for 2025-26, and 2025 budget
- JANUARY 19 Bulletin of Reports for Annual Meeting are available.
- JANUARY 26 Annual Meeting following worship.

# **ELECTIONS FOR CHURCH COUNCIL COMING UP**

Would you like to serve as a member of our congregation's Church Council? There are leadership positions on the Council opening up in January. The council meets once a month to support our ongoing mission, including the discussion of budgets, policies, and the operations of the church. Church council members are the governing body of the church in between congregational meetings. They work as liaisons between the council and all the church committees and ministry teams. The council is comprised of a group of individuals who work hard to maintain a positive, Christian experience for everyone who attends Peace Lutheran Church. We need you! If you are interested in exploring the possibility of becoming a church council member please contact Marcia Olson, Chris Kindem, Alan Jarvimaki, or Derek Lunde. Nominees must have been a member of Peace for 1 year. Elections take place at the Annual Meeting on January 26th.

## PRAYER LIST

Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: Sick/Recovering: Rich Albers; Carrol Andersen; Bailey Byam; Deric Bevier; Jan Burt; Jeff & Dolly Chale; Mike & Marsha Davis; MaryAnne DeVry; Joe DiJulio, Sr.; Jackie Farah; Bob Gaines; Gussie Gannon; Ann Gault; Caity Gerhardt; Diana Heiland; Jerry Heiland; Verna Hernandez; Ellen Heritage; Maria Iriarte; Alan Jarvimaki; Sandy Kaduce; Ken Keves; Peter Dion Kindem; Kyle Madsen; Evelyn Martinez; Pete & Kelly McIntyre; Steve Metzler; Bill Morrell; Janet Peek; Michelle Pierce; Victor Siders; Aaden Smith; Don Spangler; Pat Spangler; Nancy Spannaus; Doug Sprague; Dave Stansbury; Sean Stephens; Kaity Streit; Mark Swanson; Sarah Taylor; Michele Tomseth; Pam Webber; Roger Wingfield. Homebound: Connie Benjamin; Lu Kramer; Marjorie Johnson; Jan Madsen; Inta Zagars **PROTOCOL FOR PRAYER LIST** We will keep people on the prayer list for one month unless otherwise specified or unless you contact the Peace office to extend the time.

## RECONCILING IN CHRIST AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, in a world that can be filled with alienation and brokenness. In faithfulness to the Gospel and to our Lutheran heritage, we answer Christ's call to be agents of healing and safety, particularly for people who have been marginalized by our society. As a Christian community, we invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the meaning of grace for our lives. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities into



## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

the life and mission of our congregation.

We respectfully acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral homeland of the DUWAMISH **PEOPLE.** We recognize the DUWAMISH and other SALISH PEOPLES, the FIRST STEWARDS of this land, who have called this region home—and continue to call it home—from time immemorial. We join with them and with all people who see the Earth, its creatures, watersheds, and habitats, as part of an integral whole reflecting our Creator's intention for wholeness and balance.

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